

Applicant: G. Traintopoulos et al.
Application Serial No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: August 21, 2003
Docket No.: 577-520 CON
Page 3

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Amended) A ground connector capable of being crimped, comprising:
a deformable generally U-Shaped conductive body comprising a pair of legs projecting from said body, said legs defining ~~an open ended~~ a central slot configured for receiving a bus bar therein ~~for crimp connection~~;
a plurality of teeth on at least one of said legs projecting into said slot to establish an electrical connection between the bus bar and the body; and at least one aperture to receive at least one conductor therein so that when said body is deformed to initiate a partial crimp between said bus bar in said slot body and the conductor within said aperture, ~~said conductor is crimped within said aperture to the body~~ central slot is slightly opened to receive the bus bar therein.
2. (Amended) The ground connector of claim 1 wherein the body at a closed end of the ~~open ended~~ central slot has a pair of outwardly angled cut outs to allow the body to deform into a secure crimp connection to the bus bar.
3. (Original) The ground connector of claim 1 wherein said at least one aperture includes access openings extending through a lower surface of the body, to thereby permit deformation of the body at said aperture and a secure crimp connection of the body around said conductor.
4. (Amended) The ground connector of claim 1 wherein said aperture comprises sections of different shapes and sizes to accommodate one or more said conductors of various ranges.

5. (Original) The ground connector of claim 1, wherein said pair of legs are located at opposite ends of the body.
6. (Amended) The ground connector of claim 1, wherein said at least one aperture extends through said body at location opposite said pair of legs.
7. (Amended) A ground connector capable of being crimped, comprising:
 - a generally U-Shaped body of deformably conductive material having a pair of open ended slots, each of said slot being defined by opposed, spaced sidewalls and a closed end; each of said slots being configured to receive a respective bus bar therein ~~through said open end~~;
 - a plurality of teeth extending on each of said side walls of said slots to establish electrical crimp connection between the respective bus bars and the body;
 - and
 - a plurality of apertures extending through said body, wherein at least one of said aperture being on opposite sides of at least one of said slots to respectively receive at least one conductor therein so that when said body is deformed to initiate a partial crimp the bus bars in said slots between the body and the conductor within said aperture, said open end slots are slightly opened to receive the respective bus bars therein. ~~the conductors are crimped within said apertures to the body.~~
8. (Original) The ground connector of claim 7 wherein at least one of said slots has a pair of outwardly angled cut outs to allow deformation of the body for crimp connection to the bus bars.

Applicant: G. Traintopoulos et al.
Application Serial No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: August 21, 2003
Docket No.: 577-520 CON
Page 5

9. (Amended) The ground connector of claim 7 wherein at least one of said apertures includes an access opening to permit deformation of the body at one of said aperture for crimp connection to at least one said conductor.

10 – 13 Canceled

14. (Amended) A method for crimping a connector to at least one bus bar and at least one conductor, comprising the steps of:

providing a connector including a deformable body comprising a pair of legs defining a central [opening] slot, each leg having teeth extending into the [opening] slot, said body having at least one channel extending through said body, the channel being adapted to receive a conductor therein;

placing at least one conductor in the channel;

deforming the body to initiate a partial crimp between the body and the conductor placed in said channel thereby causing said central slot to be slightly opened;

inserting a bus bar into said slightly opened central [opening] slot of the body after the conductor is partially crimped;

continuing to deform the conductor until the conductor is tightly crimped within the channel in the body and said bus bar is crimped between the legs.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the crimp connection is initiated by a crimping tool.

Applicant: G. Traintopoulos et al.
Application Serial No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: August 21, 2003
Docket No.: 577-520 CON
Page 6

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the crimping tool includes a pair of spaced apart dies.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further including the steps of:
placing the body of the connector between the pair of spaced apart dies; and
moving the dies towards opposite ends of the body to deform the connector therebetween.